There are specialists in all professions, and es-ocially among lawyers.
Such a division would undoubtedly expedite busi-ess, and would be a decided improvement upon the resent organization of the courts in this city. It is very important that an effort should be made or give us the best possible system, and I do not hink the interests or wishes of any particular in-tridual should stand in the way. This can only be eccomplished by a full and fair discussion of the resent situation and of what is needed.

Supreme Court bench has only deepened his con- to

vert the principles laid down by the other, it distinguishes cases with a subtlety that it is hard to follow. It is most important that decisions ould be certain and consistent."

chancery and the present English system. He thinks they should be paid in fees, as now, it there should be a limit to the size of the fees. principle of allowing the lawyers to consent to different foe than that fixed by law, he con-

decreasing the labors of the courts would be to have the appellate courts give the right judgment, instead of granting new trials, in cases in which an error had been committed. Thus, if the General Term held that a judge erred in not dismissing a suit, it should itself take that action, The Tilden will case was tried in the Court, and the will was sustained. On appeal, the General Term reversed this judgment. Then the case went back to the Supreme Court, and was again taken to the General Term. nence it was carried to the Court of Appeals. Judge Ingraham's idea would be to have it go directly from the General Term to the Court of Appeals in the first instance, and thus to do away with the second proceedings in the Su-

preme Court and the General Term. JUDGE ANDREWS ON TAXATION.

Justice George P. Andrews, of the Supreme Court, believed that the tax laws needed revision. He said:

"In my judgment, personal taxes should be abolished. I think the present system is unequal and unjust. A large part of the personal property is not reached and never can be."

Justice Andrews also favors a change in the system of referees. He said he had not read the bill which had been introduced into the Legislature, providing for the appointment of a fixed number of salaried referees, but thought that such a bill ought to pass. His objections to the present method were that it was expensive, often caused great delays in litigation, and subjected the judges to great annoyance, as they were constantly being solicited for references.

OPINIONS OF JUDGE M'ADAM.

Judge McAdam, of the Superior Court, gave of the Court of Appeals: "There should be but one division of the Court of Appeals, consisting of twenty-one judges, divided into two parts of of twenty-one judges, divided into two parts of seven each. This would leave seven judges off the bench, who might devote their entire time to writing opinions. There would be no difficulty in arranging the judges who would be off court duty, as this would depend upon the amount of unfinished business on hand. This would enable the Court to have consultation in regard to all important questions, and would lead to uniformity of decisions—a very desirable end.

Ind.

"In an emergency there could be three parts of the court held. This would speedly, clear the alendar and prevent overcrowding or delay."

Judge McAdam believes that the present system of General Terms needs no revision. Abo-lition of the Superior Court, or the Court of Common Pleas, or both, he would regard as unwise, "as the present system gives a suitor the option of applying to either court he pleases—a privilege which the experience of the past proves to be an important one." He favors making the City Court a constitutional one. The present system of referees, in his judgment, should con-

It is Judge McAdam's belief that taxes are being multiplied unnecessarily. He is opposed to the income tax, and thinks that the tax on personal property should be done away with. The present system of exemption he regards as reading rapidles.

needing revision.

WHAT MR. HORNBLOWER THINKS. William B. Hornblower, President Cleveland's first choice for the seat on the bench of the Supreme Court of the United States made vacant. by the death of Justice Elatchford, having been a member of the Judiciary Commission of 1890, has special acquaintance with the various views held regarding changes in the courts of the State. In reply to a request for his opinion of the advisability of having two divisions of the Court of Appeals, he said:

Court of Appeals, he said:

I am most emphatically opposed to having two divisions of the Court of Appeals. I am of opinion that the court of last resort should be a single body, and that all ats members should be a single body, and that all ats members should let a single body, and that all ats members should sit in each case. The functions of the court of last resort are to settle the law of the State for all time, except as modified by the Legislature. It is of the uniform and coherent. It is impossible that the jurisprudence of the State should be kept a harmonious and consistent system of law if there are two courts of last resort deciding similar questions, whose decisions must more or less diverge from each other. If there should be two divisions, however, I am in favor of having different branches of the law assigned to them—thus one division might the criminal courts, and might aims entertain appeals in a few other branches of law, while the other division might take the rest of the cases on other branches of the law or from other courts.

I think the present Court of Appeals, composed of seven members, or possibly with two additional

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members, is the ideal form of a court of last resort, and that it should not be further increased or divided. I am in favor of reducing the number of cases appealable to the Court of Appeals, making the decisions of the General Term in most cases final. I see no propriety in having a double appeal in every case involving over \$500, as under the present law. A hearing in the trial court and one hearing on appeal ought to be sufficient for the parties and the court of last resort should exist only for the purposes of reviewing especially important cases involving important questions of law, or for the benefit of the community at large.

AS TO GENERAL TERMS.

preme courts of this city should all go to the me General Term, thus making the judges of the mercon and Common Pleas courts virtually trial stices, and relieving them from General Term ork. The effect of this would be to give specific alls, and also to have fewer conflicting decisions General Term. As to the abolition of the Court of Common

Pleas or the Superior Court, or both, Mr. Horn-blower gave this as his opinion:

In regard to reform of the tax laws, he said:

W. S. LOGAN'S SUGGESTIONS. Walter S. Logan proposed; before the State Bar Association last month, a programme for the Constitutional Convention with reference to the judiciary system, which has some novel ideas. He would begin by having only one court of original jurisdiction in this State, that is, not counting the Court for the Trial of Impeachments and the district courts. He would abolish the Court of Common Pleas, the Superior Court, the City Court, the Court of General Sessions of New-York City, the City Court of Brooklyn, the Superior Court of Buffalo and all the surrogates courts. There should be about seventy-five judges of this Supreme Court in the State. General Terms would be abolished. Mr. Logan said further:

judges, empowered to sit in three separate parts, or all together, as they may by rule or order provide ordinary cases would be heard before an appellate court of five judges, but on questions of special in-portance, or where there was a difference of opinion in the court, they would naturally be heard, either at first or finally, before the whole fifteen. This court, or some of its parts, might sit at times in New-York and Enffalo or Hochester, as well as Al-bany, and possibly in some of the other cities of the State. A Court of Appeals sitting in three parts, as proposed, could easily dispose of all the appellate business which would come before it.

WHAT IS TO BE GAINED.

The result of this judicial organization would be 1. A great saying of expense to the people of the State. Seventy-five judges sitting in one court of

1. A great saving of expense to the people of the State. Seventy-five judges sitting in one court of original jurisdiction, with fifteen more in a single appellate court, all employed all their time, could do the work of double their number sitting in different courts, hearing double appeals, and overworked at some times and idle at others.

2. It would be likely to give us, on the average, a higher class of judges. The best legal talent is almost always ready to accept a position on the Supreme Court bench or in the Court of Appeals, with the very long term of office, great responsibility and high honor which attach to these positions; while it is generally quite difficult to get ble men to sit on the benches of the inferior courts.

2. It would be a great saving of labor to counsel. A by no means inconsiderable portion of a lawyer's time is now spent in considering in what court he must bring a fairt, and in what court he had best bring it. If more than one is open to him, and it is not such an infrequent matter that a mistake is made in this recard. Another considerable portion of a lawyer's time is spent in going from one court to another, or bringing the proceedings of one court into another, and there is frequent conflict and much work done twice over.

4. It would make the machinery of our courts much more orderly, logical, consistent and effective.

THERE SHOULD BE NO CHOICE OF COURTS.

THERE SHOULD BE NO CHOICE OF COURTS.

These principles which Mr. Logan laid down bear especially on the question of what to do with the Court of Common Pleas and the Su-

perior Court.

1. The suitor should not have a choice of courts or of jurisdiction. If such choice is an advantage to the plaintiff it is a disadvantage to the plaintiff it is a disadvantage to the defendant. If it does either party any good it is unfair to the other. There should be only one tribunal and one jurisdiction in which the judicial machinery in any given case may be set in motion.

2. The organization should be as simple as possible. Where one court can be made to do the work it is a mistake to have more than one. Divide the jurisdiction between different courts the best you will, there is pretty sure to be a conflict somewhere when will impair the usefulness of both courts; besides, there is no way in which you can make the division which will be at all times fair and even. You will be likely to give one court too much to do and another too little; to have one judge dissatished because he is tole and another complaining because he is too much worked. If you succeeded in making a division which was ideal at one time, it would be faulty at another, as one kind of business should grow and another dwindle. Organize a lawyer's office as best you will, and it takes longer and costs more to do a given amount of business in two courts than one. Treat suitors ever so fairly, and they get loss sidvantage and more unsatisfactory justice in two courts than in one, while it costs them more.

JAMES C. CARTER'S VIEWS.

James C. Carter, who was one of the United States counsel before the Behring Sea Commis-

Sion, said:

In some respects the Court of Appeals might be changed to advantage. It should retain its present character and number of judges, but its work should be diminished so as to enable it to perform all that it has to do. This can be done only by cutting down its jurisdiction. My views as to the mode of cutting down its jurisdiction are substantially embraced in the recommendation made by the Commission which sat three years ago in Albany. In my opinion, the establishment of two divisions of the court or any substantial increase in the number of judges would be fatal to the character and usefulness of the court.

I think there should be a reorganization of the General Terms of the Suprisme Court, and here also my views are substantially those embraced in the recommendation of the Commission.

I think that there should not be separate General Term parts of the Common Pleas, Superior and Supreme courts in this city. All appeals from all courts should be taken to the same General Term. I see no sufficient reason for the saparate existence of the Superior Court. Perhaps the Common Pleas should be continued. I see no reason for making the City Court of this city a constitutional court.

Our tax laws, I think, should be reformed, but in what particular way I have no definite opinion. Nor have I any definite opinion as to whether it is expedient that personal taxes be shollshed. I see

John E. Parsons, who holds an enviable position at the bar of this city and State, and who

should be abolished altogether. I have known cusswhere an estate in a trust company, at 2½ per cent
interest, has been faxed 2 per cent. This means
practical confiscation. Personal property which is
invested in the stocks of banks and other such
corporations can be made to pay a tax by compelling the corporation liself to pay for the owner of
the stock. To this is, however, the objection that
it compels one kind of investment of personal properry to pay a tax and lets another of.

I do not harpen to think of any existing tax
exemptions which should be changed. While we
have no State Church, and should not appropriate
public money to sectarian uses, it seems to me that
incre can be no reason why the State shall impose a penalty upon the appropriation of property
for hospitals, churches, colleges and other such institutions which are devoted to public uses.

You ask whether the system of referce should be
changed.

stitutions which are devoted to public uses. You sak whether the system of referee should be changed. I think not. Many cases are of that character that they can only be disposed of before a referee. There are serious defects in the system. The mode of trial before a referee should approximate more nearly to that which prevails in court. The post-ponements which are so frequent multiply many times the labor and trouble of a case, and they lead to vexatious delays. But I cannot think of any better way of disposing of a question than before a capable referee. I have sometimes thought that the courts would be helped by a system of permanent referees, who might have conferred upon them the power to grant exparte orders and to attend to more or less Chamber business. The objection to such a system is that the positions might have conferred upon which the courts suffer is the facility with which inwyers are made, and the necessary incompetency of so large a number. Under the former system additional time for study was required to entitle a lawyer to practise in the courts. While there are many young men who at the beginning are better able to attend to court business than many older men ever become. I am satisfied that some restriction upon the right of lawyers just admitted to appear in court would racilitate the transaction of business.

CHIEF JUSTICE EHRLICH'S OPINIONS.

CHIEF JUSTICE EHRLICH'S OPINIONS. Chief Justice Ehrlich, of the City Court, expressed the following views on the Court of Appeals: "There should be a single Court of Appeals having not less than fourteen judges. Seven should constitute a full bench for the decision of causes, without occasional sessions of the full

and other important questions, on the certificate of not less than four judges." Judge Ehrlich thought there should be a reor ganization of the General Term as intermediate appellate courts, notably in the first department. He said: "In other departments General Terms should be consolidated or reduced in number; the sessions should be more frequent; the justices holding them should have no other judicial labor, and the decisions should be more prompt. As for having General Terms in the Supreme Court and the Court of Common Pleas, I do not believe in them. Appeals from these two courts should be taken to the General Term of the Supreme Court. The Superior Court should be abolished. The Common Pleas, by reason of its special jurisdiction over many subjects, should be retained." ganization of the General Term as intermediate

e retained."

Judge Ehrlich is of opinion that the City Court should be made a constitutional court. The pres-ent system of referces he would like to have

abolished.

On the problems of taxation, Chief Justice Ehrlich had this to say: "I think the tax laws should be reformed in the direction of simplicity and uniformity. Whether or not personal taxes should be abolished is a question requiring careful study. As for myself, I believe that the abolished are small taxes, when accomplished. should be about the should be about the about the should be for the interest of the State. The list of exempt property should be largely reduced. I believe that real estate taxes should be on land values, exclusive of improvements, if personal taxes were abolished."

PRESIDENT BARKER'S CONCLUSIONS.

President Edward P. Barker, of the Department of Taxes and Assessments, said that the question of taxation was one of such vital imortance that it had engrossed the attention of the best minds and thought of the civilized world for generations, and still no plan had been, evolved of an equalization of valuations,

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some advantages and some very great disadvantages in abrogating them. I have no settled opinion as to what changes should be made in the system of exemptions from taxation, but I have a decided inclination greatly to limit them. I am in doubt whether it is expedient that any church property should be exempt from taxation.

As at present advised, I do not think that real estate taxes should be on land values exclusive of improvements. than in this great financial centre of the Western Hemisphere with its rapidly increasing population and growing wealth. Speaking for nimself and his colleagues of the Tax Board, Cammissioners Whalen and Blumenthal, President Barker said:

has long been recognized as an able constitutional lawyer, said:

I am not in favor of a two-division Court of Appeals. If the business were kept within suitable limits, one court, consisting of seven judges, could attend to it. A great many unnecessary appeals are taken. The delay which results is frequently an inducement to appeal. Funcessary delays should be prevented. This would enable the court to keep up with its business and, of itself, would aid in diminishing appeals.

An illustration is furnished by the General Term in this department. Under the administration of the louge Van Brunt, appeals are disposed of at once. In consequence the calendar of the court is not blocked by appeals the purpose of which is gain time.

I think that the place for the ablest judges is upon the bench of the courts of first instance. It is because of supposed errors on the trial of cases that appeals are taken. If sufficient respect were and the propose of which is to gain time.

If I remember correctly, during the many years in which their decisions would be reviewed would heavene raire.

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If I remember correctly during the many years in which their decisions of the lituits of the must look on while large and taxation flats to mean taxation fless his and

domestic corporations, organized under the of this State, are now being taxed under redecisions of the Court of Appeals mainly by ting debts from assets, it stock associations, life insurance, trust and aph companies, cordage, sugar and other corporated with large capital, practically esticat taxation.

the city, and the taxpayer, whether he pays real, personal or corporation taxes, if the annual amount assessed is increased, groans under the tax imposed upon him.

Another matter in connection with taxation that we might mention is the practice for years past of the Controller, who claims the right under the Cansolidation Act, to remit a tax as made by the Tax Department. The language of section 123 of the Consolidation act, under which this authority has in the past been exercised, was certainly never intended to apply to the Tax Increatment, as is made plain, in our opinion, by a subsequent section, giving the Tax Commissioner authority to sit in review of the work of assessments, and remit or reduce the tax imposed on real or personal estates.

The Tax Commissioners feel that the power to remit does not clearly exist with the Controller. The question has never been legally tested in the courts, and we feel that the only power to review our work or remit assessments as made by us rests with the courts alone.

CONTROLLER FITCH'S IDEAS. court for review of cases involving constitutional

CONTROLLER FITCH'S IDEAS.

Controller Ashbel P. Fitch, after reading the questions to which his attention had been invited

questions to which his attention had been invited by a Tribune reporter, said:

The seven questions asked by The Tribune in regard to the courts cover the entire judicial system of the State and of the city. It is impossible for me to go over the questions which are involved, or to make suggestions as to the contemplated reorganization. In a general way I should view any changes proposed with considerable apprehension. Our present system in the State and in the city may not be logically perfect; but in practice it works well. Under it justice is administered to the general satisfaction of clients and lawyers.

I have been a practising lawyer in the city of New-York for just a quarter of a century, and i recall no time when the business of the courts was conducted so speedily and so satisfactorily as it is now. Our judges elected and acting under the present system are a credit to our city and to our State. Their decisions are quoted in this and other countries with respect and approval.

A system which gives us results like this should not be desiurbed without very careful consideration.

The questions which relate to taxation are most

The questions which relate to taxation are most important. I would be giad to see some commission appointed to examine into them, so that evidence could be taken as to their operation and effect. Many corporations complain that it is impossible for them to locate in New-York City on account of the operation of the tax laws, and I believe that before fixing on a new system we should have a careful investigation of the workings of the one now in force.

MR. SHEARMAN'S IDEAS. Thomas G. Shearman, who has given much

time and attention to the subject of taxation, gave The Tribune the following interview:

consistent with an equal distribution of tax burdens, rather than to inquire what ought to be done, at the risk of running across impossibilities. After we have decided what is possible, we may get more light up on what is desirable. It must be assumed, light up on what is desirable. It must be assumed, light up on what is desirable. It must be assumed, light up on what is desirable. It must be assumed, light up on what is desirable. It must be assumed, light up on what is desirable. It must be assumed, light of property within the taxel district, no matter to whom it belongs. It is not necessary, in order to attain just results, that literally every kind of property should be taxed. But it is necessary that whatever kind of property is taxed should be taxel equally against all citizens.

This is not done. Thus, every house and lot in this is not done. Thus, every house should also be taxed equally against all citizens.

This is not done. Thus, every house should also be taxed 2 per cent. Now a mortgage in fact, reptaxed 2 per cent. Now a mortgage in fact, reptaxed 2 per cent. Now a mortgage upon it for \$10,000, and to have a mortgage upon it for \$10,000, and to have a mortgage upon it for \$10,000, and to have a mortgage upon it for \$10,000, and to have a mortgage upon it for \$10,000, and to have a mortgage upon it for \$10,000, and to have a mortgage upon it for \$10,000 the house. But our tax laws require the assessor to swear that he finds \$20,000 value in the house and \$10,000 value in the mortgage on the house; although he knows perfectly well that both together are worth only \$20,000. Nor does the absurdity of the thing stop here. The mortgage on the house; although he knows perfectly well that both together are worth only \$20,000. Nor does the absurdity of the thing stop here. The mortgage on the house; although he knows perfectly well that both together are worth only \$20,000 house, simply by the addition of two extra pleces of paper, which both together, did not cost I cent. If the hother of this \$10,000

EVADING TAXES.

This is what is called "taxation of personal property." If there were no other reasons than these they would suffice to condemn it. But it must be by this time, plain to every one that a law so thoroughly unjust will always be resisted by every means of evasion within the wit of man; and such is the case. Laws for the taxation of personal property are nowhere enforced with any equality; but they can be and are enforced in such manner as to make strictly bounds.

chattels are easily found and taxed; but even visible chattels in cities are not reached in anything like the same proportion; while money, notes, mortgages and other securities for debt are practically not reached at all. Thus, in Cheinnatt, at the very time when the banks held \$5,00,000 on deposit, the whole amount of such deposits, returned under oath by its citizens, was less than \$1,500,000.

I am opposed to all attempts to tax personal property, therefore, for the simple reason that the experience of centuries has proved that it has never been found possible to levy such a tax with even an approach to fairness and equality among the owners of such property. When it is impossible to do a certain thing, we may be very sure that it is a thing which ought not to be done.

Money is, of all things, the last which should be taxed. It is the lifeblood of all business. Taxation dries it up and drives it out. hattels are easily found and taxed; but even visi-

There remain only visible, movable things to be There remain only visible, movable things to be considered, such as furniture, tools, machinery, clothing, books and general merchandise. It is im-possible for assessors to place a valuation upon these things which will be at all uniform or equal as between different classes of the community. The furniture, clothing and books belonging to men of small means will inevitably be valued by the most bonest assessor at a far higher rate, in proportion, than will be similar but more expensive things bematter of guess-work. Fancy an assessor going

ment and the public are for the first time placed in an intelligent position regarding the taxing of non-resident corporations. The decision says:

The assessment of a domestic corporation is made after a deduction for debts because its capital and surplus are to be assessed at their actual value, which cannot be arrived at without considering and desincting debts. A foreign corporation is not to be thus taxed, and no impuly is made as to the notical value of such capital or surplus, and as such value is not to be such excital or surplus, and as such value is not to be such capital or surplus, and as such value is not to be assessed or taxed the debts should not be deducted from specific property here invested:

For a number of years past it has been a popular that to incorporate in New-Jersey and other States and by so doing claim exemption from taxation bere. The Tax Department, slied by the Corporation of coursed, after persistent efforts fought the matter up to the fourt of Appeals resulting in this decision, which must give increased revenue to this city, and demonstrate that the cry that the Tax Department was diving capital away from this city was a subterfuge for the purpose of avoiding taxation.

The domestic corporations, organized under the laws of this State, are now being taxed under the domestic corporations, organized und

TAXATION OF REAL ESTATE. Having endeavored to show that nothing but real estate should be the subject of local direct taxation, we may now inquire whether improvements tion, we may now inquire whether improvements on land should be taxed. These include, not only buildings, fences, payements and the like, but also growing cross, drains and everything else which has been added to the soil by human industry. In short, should real estate be assessed at its full

The passage by the Legislature of laws indiscriminately relieving real estate from taxation is yearly anrowing the area of assessments. We might refer particularly to Chapter 488, Laws of 1884. This act grants exemption from taxation to the real property of corporations or associations or ganzed excussively for the moral and mental improvement of men and women or for relicious, chartatole, missionary, hospital, educational, patriote, historical or cemetery purposes, or for two of Loder the elasticity of the language of this have and from the point of view of some, an association for the development of the enloyment of a few or many might be incorporated and demand exemption inder the elasticity of the language of this have and women' clause, and inder the patriotic and women' clause, and under the patriotic and institutions, but under this law therefore the entitled to the largest scope, and the city rendered powerless in endeavoring to compet the real estate held by souch an association from bearing its just share of taxation.

Some of these associations, while sorrounded with an air of sentiment, are accredited with being money-making institutions, but under this law they are also the competent of the endeavoring to compete the real estate held by souch an essential to station and there are stated to a station of the endeavoring to compete the real estate held by souch an essential to station and the endeavoring to compete the real estate held by souch an essential to station and the endeavoring to compete the endeavoring to the endeav Dealing first with the question of practicability,

advantages of government are bestower in the greater measure upon places like Wall-st, and Fifth-ave, than among tenement-houses and factories. All these advantages are reflected in the rent of the bare hand, it costs just as much to put up a house in Avenue A as in Fifth-ave, and therefore the market value of improvements upon limit is the same all over the city. But the value of the land underneath the houses varies enormously, and it always varies according to the benefits derived from government.

It follows that landlords always collect from their tenants the full market value of the advantages afforded by human society, in their respective situations, and that in this value is included the full value of local government. They are nature's tax-gatherers. Receiving, as they do, all the compensation which their tenants ought in justice to pay for all the henefits conferred by good government, it is simple equity that they should provide, at their own cost, out of this fund, for all the expenses of that government. Many persons, however, own the land upon which they live and transact business. They are none the less landlords, and none the less do they collect rent.

18 IT CONFISCATION?

At this point the cry of confiscation will be heard in the land. The Duke of Argyil will mourn over the infquity of the proposition, and his wall will be echoed by land speculators from the Atlantic to the Pacific. For have they not purchased from other men the right to tax their fellow-citizens, in reliance upon the time-honored custom of double taxation? Has not the State tacitly assured them of the eternal privilege of collecting taxes without ever accounting for them? Let us ask a few questions on this point. Has

Let us ask a few questions on this point. Has any State government the right or power to enter into a perpetual contract of this kind? Has it the power to give away to private citizens, for nothing and forever, the right to collect taxes and retain them? These questions answer themseives. But if the Legislature cannot thus murder the State, neither can it commit half-way murder by giving to any set of men a perpetual right to collect half the taxes and keep them.

Has the State ever promised any such privileges to the owners of ground reats? Has it ever pledged itself not to tax is allorders? There is no "vested right" of exemption from taxation; much less can there be any vested right to collect taxes and not account for them. It must be observed that no proposition is here made for an increase of taxes, or for any effort to absorb the whole rent of land. That is a separate question.

Why?

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THE RACE IS WON

-over to good health and the system redered impervious to disease when the blood is pure and the liver active. For the liver is the sentinel which permits or forbids the germs of disease to enter the circulation of the blood. To a congested, torpid and diseased liver can be traced many dangerous diseases a effecting various organs. diseases affecting various organs.

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A NEW SCHOOL SYSTEM.

THE PLAN PROPOSED BY THE COMMIS

SION OF FIVE.

under an act of the Legislature on May 2, 1893, remodelled, completed its work on Saturday morrow. The commission consists of five men who have been intimately connected with the public school system of this city, and who are recognized throughout the country as being emimonths ago, and has been diligently engaged were to draft might be as perfect as possible, the approval of the people, the members of the commission invited all experts in educational which were held in the clubhouse of the Bar Association, No. 7 West Twenty-ninth-st. These meetings were held during October and Novem-

best-known educators in the country. The suggestions laid before the commission stands now, the system on which it is proposed to reorganize the public schools of this city is immeasurably superior to the system now in vogue, and by many it is asserted that it is a model that will be closely followed in all the large cities in the United States.

The bill first proposes to divide the city into twenty "School Divisions," each containing as nearly as possible 100,000 inhabitants. These divisions will be made so as to avoid as far as into the centre of another. Over each of these divisions a superintendent will be stationed, whose duty it shall be to give all his attention to the schools in his district. These superintenthe superintendent-in-chief will receive a salary the superintendent-in-chief, are to constitute an Advisory Board to the Board of Education, and it shall be their duty to nominate teachers, who must be confirmed by the Board of Education. An especially valuable feature of the Advisory Board Hes in the fact that it is to be composed of experts in educational matters, each superintendent to be selected as an expert in some

particular branch of education. The need of more superintendents in the school system has long been felt. At present there are only eight of them. Raising the total number to twenty-one is a step which will answer the nesd adequately. The present Board of Inspectors, according to the new bill, will be done away with altogether, the trustees and superintendents taking their places.

DUTIES OF THE TRUSTEES.

The present school trustees of each ward also will have so much of their power and functions taken from them that they will be reduced to mere visiting committees. As has been said, the city is to be redistricted into twenty divisions, but each of these divisions is to be subdivided into school districts, so that each school district is to contain as nearly as possible three schools. In each school district there is to be a Board of Trustees, consisting of three members, instead of five, the present number. These trustees are to be elected by the Board of Education, and are to serve only three years instead of five, the present term of office. The duties of these trustees (who serve without pay) are to visit the schools in their district and report anything that may seem at all out of the way. They are also to act as a sort of tribune for the people, so that all complaints may be formally forwarded to the proper authorities. It is proposed that each of the three members of the Board of Trustees will have some one of the three schools in that district chosen for his personal care.

will have some one of the three schools in that district chosen for his personal care.

Under the present system the school districts follow the old ward lines, but the population has shifted toward the northern end of the island so much that in the lower wards there are only a few schools, while in the upper wards, like the Nineteenth and Twelfth, there are as many as twenty-five schools. Yet each ward has a Board of Trustees composed of five members, the boards in the lower wards having little or nothing to do while those in the upper wards have much more than they can attend to.

Its Increased powers.

ITS INCREASED POWER.

The most important change suggested by the bill, however, is that in reference to the Board of Education itself, which, under the bill, will have vastly increased power and responsibility. Under the present plan the trustees have the power of nominating all teachers below the rank of principal, also janitors; but by the new bill this power of nomination is delegated to the Board of Superintendents, subject to the confirmation of the Board of Education. The Board of Educa-tion also has the power of taking the initiative in the matter of choosing sites and erecting new school buildings. By the new bill a majority of the votes in the Board of Education is sufficient to dismiss a teacher on trial, while under the present system sixteen votes of the twenty-one are required.

The bill has already received the commenda-tion of many well-known educators. Charles H. Knox, the president of the Board of Education, said to a Tribune reporter yesterday: "This bill is a step in the right direction. We are really in need of a better school system and one more thoroughly adapted to the enormous growth of our city. Although in certain particulars the bill does not meet my entire approval, yet it con-tains so many good features that I shall give sanction to it." The bill has already received the commenda-

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